

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 131622Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 879

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMCONGEN BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS CARACAS 11792

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EGEN VE PN

SUBJ: REMARKS BY PRESIDENT PEREZ ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

REF: CARACAS 11724 (NOTAL)

1. ON THE SUBJECT OF BELIZE, PRESIDENT PEREZ TOLD US NEWSMEN ON NOVEMBER 8 THAT LATIN AMERICA HAD BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE BELIZE DISPUTE AND THE SENDING OF "COLONIALIST TROOPS" TO LATIN AMERICA. HE SAID: "UNFORTUNATELY, THERE STILL ARE COLONIES IN OUR AMERICA. TRADITIONALLY, THE LATIN AMERICANS HAVE SUPPORTED GUATEMALA IN ITS RIGHT TO RECLAIM LAND WHICH HAD BEEN THEIRS AND WHICH WAS SNATCHED AWAY BY COLONIAL GREED WHICH USED TO CHARACTERIZE GREAT EUROPEAN NATIONS.

2. "NEVERTHELESS, TIMES HAVE CHANGED GREATLY, AND THESE COLONIES NOW SEEK INDEPENDENCE, AND NO LONGER FEEL STRONG ATTACHMENTS TO THE COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES THEY USED TO BELONG TO. AND THIS IS NO ACCIDENT BUT USUALLY DOES HAPPEN. I DON'T
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WANT TO CRITICIZE TOO MUCH (NO QUISIERA CALIFICAR DURAMENTE

ESTO), BUT I MUST SAY THAT ONE OF THE MOST SORDID CUSTOMS OF THE COLONIAL COUNTRIES WAS TO FOMENT THE ISOLATION OF THE COLONY FROM THE COUNTRIES SURROUNDING IT. LANGUAGE AND CUSTOMS LITTLE BY LITTLE SEPARATED THESE COLONIES FROM THEIR NEIGHBORS. SO EVEN RESPECTING THE RIGHTS WHICH A COUNTRY CAN HAVE TODAY OVER A COLONIAL TERRITORY, WE SHOULD ALSO KEEP IN MIND THE MANDATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE COLONIES. THE BELIZE QUESTION, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE UN."
SHLAUDEMAN

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NNN

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